

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for enabling telephony services when roaming in a visited mobile network to a user subscribing to a home mobile network and having a prepaid account with a balance at said home mobile network, the system comprising:

a home intelligent gateway integrated into said home mobile network, wherein said home mobile network is configured to direct signaling messages for events associated with roaming prepaid subscribers to said home intelligent gateway;

a visited intelligent gateway integrated into said visited mobile network; and

a global packet switch network connected to said home intelligent gateway and to said visited intelligent gateway,

said home intelligent gateway and said visited intelligent gateway configured to communicate management information via said global packet switch network in order to manage said telephony services in real-time according to said balance, thereby controlling a duration of said telephony event at said visited mobile network via said communicated information.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said home mobile network has a prepaid system and said home intelligent gateway includes an interface to said prepaid system.

3. (Original) The system of claim 2, wherein said home intelligent gateway is configured to retrieve said balance via said interface, to calculate an allowed call duration based upon said balance, and to transfer said allowed call duration in time units to said visited intelligent gateway via said global packet switch network.

4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said system further comprises a signaling connection control part signal relay point platform integrated into said home intelligent gateway for relaying signaling connection control part messages between said home mobile network and said visited mobile network.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for enabling telephony services when roaming in a visited mobile network to a user subscribing to a home mobile network and having a prepaid account with a balance at said home mobile network, the method comprising the steps of:

configuring said home mobile network to direct signaling messages for events associated with a prepaid user to a home intelligent gateway integrated into said home mobile network, upon notification that said prepaid user is roaming in said visited mobile network; and

communicating call management information via a global packet switch network connecting a said home intelligent gateway integrated into said home mobile network and a visited intelligent gateway integrated into said visited mobile network in order to manage said telephony services control a duration of said telephony event at said visited mobile network via said communicated information in real-time according to said balance.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for registering a user subscribing to a home mobile network and roaming in a visited mobile network, said home mobile network having a home intelligent gateway integrated therein that is connected to a global packet switch network, said home mobile network being configured to direct signaling messages associated with roaming prepaid users to said home intelligent gateway, the method comprising the steps of:

refusing to register said user if said visited mobile network does not have a visited intelligent gateway integrated therein that is connected to said global packet switch network; and

registering said user at said visited mobile network if said visited mobile network has a visited intelligent gateway integrated therein that is connected to said global packet switch network, by communicating call management information for controlling a duration of calls associated with said user at said visited mobile network over said global packet switch network.

7. (Currently amended) A method for enabling telephony services when roaming in a visited mobile network to a user subscribing to a home mobile network and having a prepaid account with a balance at said home mobile network, the method comprising the steps of:

registering said user in said visited mobile network; and
placing mobile originated calls from said visited mobile network if a home intelligent gateway integrated into said home mobile network communicates call management information for controlling a duration of said call via a global packet switch network a sufficient allowed call duration to a visited intelligent gateway integrated into said visited mobile network, wherein said call management information is directed to said home intelligent gateway by said home mobile network.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, the method further comprising the steps of:

enabling said user to recharge said balance during a mobile originated call; and

enabling said user to continue said mobile originated call said balance has been sufficiently recharged.

9. (Currently amended) A method for enabling telephony services when roaming in a visited mobile network to a user subscribing to a home mobile network and having a prepaid account with a balance at said home mobile network, the method comprising the steps of:

registering said user in said visited mobile network; and

placing mobile terminated calls to said visited mobile network if said visited mobile network has a visited intelligent gateway integrated therein that communicates call management information to a home intelligent gateway integrated into said home mobile network that is connected to said via a global packet switch network, so as to control a duration of said call, wherein said home mobile network is configured to direct call management messages for calls associated with roaming prepaid subscribers to said home intelligent gateway.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, the method further comprising the steps of:

enabling said user to recharge said balance during a mobile terminated call; and

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enabling said user to continue said mobile terminated call said balance has been sufficiently recharged.

11. (New) A method for registering a user subscribing to a home mobile network and roaming in a visited mobile network according to claim 6, wherein said control information comprises an allowed call duration.

12. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein control of said call is through said home mobile network.

13. (New) The system of claim 12, wherein said call terminates at said roaming prepaid subscriber.

14. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein control of said call is through said visited mobile network.

15. (New) The system of claim 14, wherein said call originates from said roaming prepaid subscriber.

16. (New) A method for configuring a home mobile network so as to enable telephony services when roaming in a visited mobile network to a user subscribing to said home mobile network and having a prepaid account with a balance at said home mobile network, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a location update message for said user from said visited mobile network;

updating a location registry of said home mobile network to the location specified in said location update message;

configuring said home mobile network to direct call management messages for said user to an integrated home intelligent gateway;

communicating call management information between said home intelligent gateway and a visited intelligent gateway integrated into said visited mobile network via a global packet switch network in order to control a duration of said call in real-time according to said balance.

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17. (New) A system for enabling telephony services when roaming in a visited mobile network to a user subscribing to a home mobile network and having a prepaid account with a balance at said home mobile network, the system comprising:

a home intelligent gateway integrated into said home mobile network, wherein said home mobile network is configured to include an address of said home intelligent gateway in a user profile for prepaid users;

a visited intelligent gateway integrated into said visited mobile network; and

a global packet switch network connected to said home intelligent gateway and to said visited intelligent gateway,

said visited intelligent gateway being configured to query said home intelligent gateway at said included address for authorization of calls associated with said roaming user, and wherein said home intelligent gateway is operable to communicate call management information via said global packet switch

network to said visited gateway in response to said query in order to manage said telephony services in real-time according to said balance, thereby controlling a duration of said call at said visited mobile network via said communicated information.

18. (New) A method for registering a roaming prepaid user at a home visited mobile network, said user subscribing to a home mobile network and roaming in a visited mobile network, said home mobile network not being CAMEL compliant, said home mobile network having a home intelligent gateway integrated therein that is connected to a global packet switch network, the method comprising the steps of:

configuring said home mobile network to direct messages updating a location of roaming prepaid users to said home intelligent gateway;

receiving a message updating a location of said roaming prepaid user from said visited network;

directing said received message to said home intelligent gateway; and
modifying a home network messaging address to direct further call management messages for calls associated with said roaming user to said home intelligent gateway.

19. (New) The method of claim 18, further comprising sending location update acknowledgement and a user profile to said visited network.